

INFORMATION REPORT

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USSR

REPORT

25X1

Resistance Potential

DATE DISTR.

18 January 1955

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DATE OF INFO.

REQUIREMENT NO. RD

25X1

PLACE ACQUIRED

REFERENCES

This is UNEVALUATED Information

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THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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ARMY review completed.

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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and is following:

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COUNTRY USSR

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Organized Resistance Groups

1. Although [] no specific resistance or anti-Soviet organization operating in or outside the USSR or her satellites, [] the following incidents. 25X1

- a. [] "bandit" groups who allegedly operated in the western Ukraine. [] the groups were possibly bandits or carry-overs of World War II partisan groups. [] these groups might be considered as resistance groups because [] they killed Soviet Army officers and EM, Soviet police, and chairmen of collective farms. [] heard they often killed their own people. 25X1

- b. A Czech-made film, "Operation B", was shown about five times in the past three years [] The film was in the Russian language and dealt with the destruction of a partisan band operating in the Ukraine; it was shown during political training by the regimental club officer. 1 25X1

Measures Against Resistance Groups

2. [] Passing through this area from Chop (N 48-25, E 27-11) to L'vov, the train was guarded by MVD troops which consisted of one major, one lieutenant, and seven or eight EM, most of whom were sergeants. These troops wore dark green uniforms unlike the color and type worn by the Soviet Army; it consisted of a blouse and long trousers. EM wore red shoulderboards with blue piping. [] these troops 25X1

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merely checked the documents of all passengers and remained in one compartment in one car.

their actual mission was to insure the safe passage of the train through the area. this was the only area in the USSR where these troops were used to accompany trains.

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Passive Resistance

3. [redacted] in the USSR, [redacted] common thievery was widespread. The people stole whatever they could get their hands on. Farm workers on kolkhozy stole whatever food they could. In the factories, workers used their machines, during working hours, to make items for their own use or items to sell when no one was looking. Factory workers stole finished and unfinished parts for their own use or for sale. In this way, the people added to their personal comfort and income.

Absenteeism, and Anti-Regime Literature

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4. [redacted] no calculated absenteeism that could be regarded as passive resistance. Repeated absenteeism was considered a crime against the State and was punishable by fine or a jail term. The law regarding absenteeism was changed in 1951, [redacted] 1951-1953, [redacted] there was a general amnesty granted to all prisoners who had been convicted of minor crimes, especially those convicted of absenteeism. After 1953 Soviet citizens were not sentenced to jail terms for reporting late for work or staying away from their job.

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Popular Attitude Towards the Government

5. [redacted] about the attitude of the Soviet people towards the government. [redacted] the only thing that the Soviet citizen could be thankful for was the fact that he was alive. There were many things that the Soviet citizen did not like:
- His life was entirely restricted to the Party line.
 - The peasant and worker class were bitter because of the low standard of living.
 - Even if there were sufficient products on the market, the ordinary person did not have enough money to take advantage of them because of the high prices.
 - There was always a terrific shortage of living quarters [redacted] It was common to have an entire family living in one room and share a kitchen with another.
 - Although every citizen had the right to vote, because of the Communist Party system, this was sheer mockery.
 - People needed permission to change their place of employment.
 - Nobody could have his own business.
 - Soviet citizens were restricted in land purchases to 700 sq. m.
 - No one could openly criticize the government.
 - Taxes were high, especially among kolkhoz workers. Consequently, many of the peasants did everything possible to leave the kolkhozy and take up employment in the factories. This was especially true of the village youth and demobilized sons of kolkhoz workers. There was much propaganda to stem the march from the farms to the cities.
 - No one dared express his true views outside of his family and trusted friends. [redacted] it was impossible to know the true attitude of the people. They could only accept conditions as they were and remain silent.

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Mail Censorship

6. [] mail entering or leaving the USSR was censored. 25X1

The Regime's Effect on Youth

7. [] the Communist Party had been extremely successful in indoctrinating the youth of the USSR with Communism. With the Communist program in full force in primary schools and higher schools, nobody could escape any Communist propaganda. Starting at a tender age, Soviet youth were taught that their life is the best in the world. They are also told that the people in America are starving to death; that there is widespread unemployment; that people are forced to sleep on benches and in parks; that Negroes are unmercifully exploited and beaten to death; and that the government of the US existed in name only, the real guiding power being Wall Street. Since the young people have no opportunity to learn the actual facts, they accept this as the truth. 25X1

Resistance by Population in Event of War

8. [] in the event of hostilities with Western powers, citizens of the USSR would be divided into two camps, one for and the other against the USSR. 25X1
- [] the Soviet people would not and could not openly resist the regime unless assured of outside help of great magnitude. With outside aid in large volume, 50% of the Soviet population would be sympathetic in overthrowing the regime. Soviet citizens would have to also be assured that there would not be a repetition of Hitler's policies. 25X1
9. [] it would be no problem whatsoever for the Soviet government to ruthlessly put down any revolt with any less degree of massive outside aid bordering on large scale warfare in any large Soviet state, with the possible exception of the Ukraine. 25X1

Anti-Semitism

10. During the war, anti-Semitism was quite pronounced in the USSR. The Soviet population generally disliked Jews. Many Jews sought refuge in the USSR during and after World War II. Following the war, ill-feeling against the Jews died down. However, following the trial of doctors in 1952, the feeling against Jews was again quite violent, especially in Kiev. The population was incited at this time and many Jews were mauled on the streets of the city. 25X1
11. In the army, [] never [] any Jewish EM. The only Jews [] in the army were officers. Consequently, there was no anti-Semitism in the army [] 25X1

Desertions

12. Military desertions in the USSR were a rarity. [] While attending the Tashkent Infantry OCS in Tashkent, one of the candidates deserted shortly after the course commenced. No further word was ever heard about him. Desertions outside the boundaries of the USSR were more prevalent. However, information on Soviet desertions was withheld from military personnel. 25X1

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Resettlement of Nationalities

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13. [redacted] in 1944, there had been a resettlement of Crimean Tartars and Kalmyks. [redacted]
14. [redacted] there had been a resettlement of Checheno-Ingushi and Karachayevtsy. (Note: Citizens of two autonomous Soviet republics, abolished for alleged cooperation with the Germans in 1944.) [redacted] arrival of two train loads of Checheno-Ingushi, consisting of about 30 cars each, in [redacted] Kalininskoye (N 42-50, E 73-52) in 1944. These people arrived in closed cattle cars. There were about 30 MVD guards [redacted] accompanying the train. When it stopped [redacted] the train was encircled by the MVD guards and no one was let out for about an hour. Finally, the cars were opened and the cars emptied of these people. There appeared to be about 50 to 60 per car. There were entire families in the group. The people were taken in trucks to the kolkhozy in and around Kalininskoye. [redacted]
15. These people were restricted to the area of Kalininskoye and only in 1953 were they permitted to leave the town without permission. [redacted] they had been resettled from the Caucasus. [redacted] these people had received a money compensation from the government. Initially, these people engaged in banditry and common thievery. They were quite a problem [redacted] since most of the men of the town were in the army and none of the Checheno-Ingushi males were required to serve at this time. As the soldiers returned from the fronts, the Checheno-Ingushi quieted down and [redacted] were living quite peacefully and with no apparent resentment of their resettlement on the part of the natives. Most had constructed their own homes on the collective farms and were working there; a few were engaged in selling farm produce in the town market place. [redacted]
16. About the same time, an unknown number of Karachayevtsy were resettled in the hills [redacted]
17. In 1948, [redacted] at the Tashkent Infantry OCS, the entire school of 400 students was sent to help bring in the harvest in Akmolinsk (N 51-10, E 71-30). [redacted] many Soviet Army personnel assisted in the harvest of 1948. [redacted] state farm named "in the honor of the Central Committee of Kazakhstan." Here there was also a large group of resettled Checheno-Ingushi. This group was broken down into several work brigades spread over many miles. [redacted] worked with one brigade which consisted of seven to eight families. These Checheno-Ingushi had not fared so well [redacted] This group lived in mud huts and appeared to be quite bedraggled. In addition to bringing in the harvest, [redacted] group was charged with the safeguarding of the harvest. The Checheno-Ingushi said that the harvest had been particularly poor and that nothing would be left over for them after the government had taken its share. [redacted]
18. [redacted] there were an unknown number of German war prisoners working in an unknown type of mine not far from the area. [redacted]

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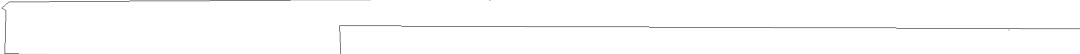


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Religion As A Source of Resistance

19.  the church and other religious groups were not a source of resistance to the regime. Churches were well attended by the older generation and women, especially during holidays, when the churches were overfilled. 

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